

S. Stevenson
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

New York, New York

Masaharu ONO et al

Date: December 20, 2000

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

For: MUSICAL TONE SIGNAL GENERATION APPARATUS ACCOMMODATED FOR
MULTIPLE USERS PLAYING MUSIC IN ENSEMBLE

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 6 and 7 as follows.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 6, line 1, delete "or 5".

Claim 7, line 1, change "any one of claims 1" to --claim 1--;
line 2, delete "to 6".

Please add the following new claims 15-23.

--15. A musical tone signal generation apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the storage is provided for a musical tune constructed by a plurality of parts so that the storage stores performance data with regard to at least a prescribed part within the plurality of parts and tone color data with regard to all of the plurality of parts, so that the automatic performance controller controls the musical tone signal generator to generate musical tone signals of automatic performance using a prescribed tone color assigned to the prescribed part whose performance data is stored in the storage, while the manual performance controller controls the musical tone signal generator to generate musical tone signals using a tone color which is selected from